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ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-10	ACDE-00	AID-00	ARA-01	A-00	CA-02
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-01	FAAE-00
	FBIE-00	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	L-01
	ADS-00	MMP-00	M-00	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03
	OIS-01	OMB-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SP-00
	SS0-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	DRL-09	G-00	/032W				

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R 051618Z JUL 96
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2216
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCCC//

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 004042

SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR S/CT, ARR/BSC, INR/IAA

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PTER, PGOV, AR

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SUBJECT: AMIA CASE: JUDGE GOES PUBLIC WITH

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 13 MAY 2008 200601030

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- ACCUSATIONS OF POLICE FOOTDRAGGING

REF: (A) 95 BUENOS AIRES 6954, (B) BUENOS AIRES 3598

1. (U) SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - PROTECT ACCORDINGLY.

2. (U) FEDERAL JUDGE JUAN JOSE GALEANO, WHO IS INVESTIGATING THE JULY 1994 BOMBING THAT LEVELED THE BUILDING HOUSING THE ARGENTINE JEWISH MUTUAL ASSOCIATION (AMIA), REVEALED IN AN INTERVIEW WITH BUENOS AIRES DAILY "LA NACION" THAT HE HAD FILED A COMPLAINT WITH PRESIDING FEDERAL JUDGE MARIA SERVINI DE CUBRIA CONCERNING POSSIBLE MISHANDLING OF EVIDENCE IN THE AMIA INVESTIGATION ON THE PART OF FEDERAL POLICE. GALEANO CLAIMS MEMBERS OF THE DIVISION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER (POC), WHOSE PRINCIPAL FUNCTION IS CONDUCTING POLICE INTELLIGENCE, HAD PURPOSEFULLY MISPLACED PIECES OF EVIDENCE IMPOUNDED FOLLOWING THE ARREST OF ALEJANDRO MONJO IN 1995 (REF A). THE ALLEGED PURPOSE OF THIS OBFUSCATION WAS TO HIDE PROOF OF THE LINKS BETWEEN MONJO'S STOLEN CAR OPERATION AND THE POLICE. AT THE TIME OF HIS ARREST, MONJO WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN AN INTERMEDIARY FOR THE PROCUREMENT AND ALTERING OF THE RENAULT VAN USED IN THE AMIA ATTACK. THAT LINK WAS NEVER CONCLUSIVELY ESTABLISHED BY GALEANO'S INVESTIGATORS.

3. (U) THE EVIDENCE IN QUESTION WAS A GOLD KEYRING
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INSCRIBED WITH MONJO'S NAME ON ONE SIDE AND THE EMBLEM OF THE AUTO THEFT DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL POLICE ON THE OBVERSE. ACCORDING TO GALEANO'S COMPLAINT, THE KEYRING WAS PRESENTED TO MONJO DURING A LUNCHEON OR SOME OTHER SOCIAL EVENT SPONSORED BY THE POLICE.

4. (SBU) THE TIMING OF GALEANO'S INTERVIEW WITH "LA NACION" -- JUST A COUPLE OF WEEKS BEFORE THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMIA BOMBING -- TENDS TO SUPPORT THE VIEWS OF HIS CRITICS, THAT "ADVANCES" IN THE

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INVESTIGATION OCCUR ONLY WHEN THE JUDGE COMES UNDER
INCREASED PUBLIC PRESSURE FOR RESULTS.

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NEVERTHELESS, THE
FACT THAT THE POC WOULD TAMPER WITH EVIDENCE IN THE
CASE IS STILL SIGNIFICANT -- THE JUDGE MUST NOW
RE-EXAMINE HIS OTHER LEADS TO DETERMINE IF TAMPERING
EXTENDS PAST THE SIMPLE CONCEALMENT OF POLICE
PARTICIPATION IN THE STEALING AND ALTERING OF CARS.

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